

OUR TOURISTS IN CUBA

WHAT THEY WILL FIND IN HOTEL AND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS.

(Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

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HAVANA, Cuba.—Cuba is fast becoming a winter resort for the United States, and it promises to be the Riviera of North America. The crowds which now go to Florida continue their voyage on to Cuba, and rich Americans are settling there not only here, but at different points along the northern shore of the island. I know a dozen men who have bought estates in or near the suburbs of this city, and several who are planning to make their winter homes about Nipe bay, on the northeastern coast. There were three times as many American tourists here last winter as ever before, and double that number are expected the coming season. The steamship lines are all building new vessels. Next season the Munsens will have new steamers from Mobile, the Wards are to put on a line from New York to Nipe bay, and there will probably be additional ships from New Orleans, Miami and Tampa.

A LAND OF BAD HOTELS.
So far no arrangements have been made to accommodate the increased travel. The hotel accommodations are notoriously inadequate, and I am sure that there are not half a dozen first-class hotels in all Cuba. Indeed, with the exception of that at Camaguey, I might say that there is not one which is run after our up-to-date American methods, and that, notwithstanding the rates are high and provisions comparatively cheap.

This is so much so that some of the hotel managers discourage the coming of tourists in large bodies. A party of 20 can hardly be accommodated, and the time is not ripe for the Cook tourist and others of his class.

HOTELS IN HAVANA.
Most of the hotels of Havana are run on the Spanish plan, with American prices. The most of the hotels have two rates—a moderate one for the summer, on the European plan, and a higher one for the winter, on the American plan. The summer guests are Cubans and Spaniards; but those of the winter are Americans, whom, as the Cubans rightly think, they pay anything in or out of season.

There is one hotel here, the Miramar, which charges \$15 a day for rooms alone, and there is another, the Alcazar, whose rates are \$4 and \$5 and upward per day on the American plan. Among these hotels are the Inglaterra, El Telégrafo, Paseo and the Louvre. The Louvre and Telégrafo also take guests on the European plan, but the rooms are high-priced; they do not have baths connected with them, although there may be baths on the same floor for the common use of both sexes.

In addition there are other places where one can rent rooms; and there is a hotel at Vedado, out in the suburbs facing the sea, which is managed on the American plan.

HAVANA AND THE AMERICAN STOMACH.
The ordinary Cuban hotel meal does not suit our digestion. If one is not on the European plan, he is supposed to take what is set before him, or pay for extra he orders. I am stopping at the Inglaterra, where I pay \$15 a day for myself, wife and daughter. Our first breakfast, or desayuno, consists of coffee and rolls with butter and a couple of oranges. The oranges are pared down to the flesh with a sharp knife, just as you pare an apple, and we eat them by sticking in a fork and sucking the juice. We can have our rolls toasted without extra charge, but the two soft-boiled eggs, which I order for each of my party every morning, are set down on the bill at 50 cents extra. This is 10 cents an egg. Indeed, it makes me almost hate a hen.

Our luncheon, or what the Cubans here call almuerzo, is taken at 11 or 12 o'clock from a limited bill of fare, most of the dishes of which are Spanish. Some are good, but others stomach-try. The Spanish omelette, for instance, are delicious, but the beefsteaks are tough and the steaks and other concoctions need at least a tablespoon of papain per meal. I saw once on a hotel table at Parkersburg, W. Va., bottles of papain sauce beside the catup and tobacco. I would recommend them for Cuba.

Anything extra outside the breakfast bill of fare is charged for at the regular restaurant rates. The same is true of dinner, which is eaten from 4 to 5 o'clock, and is the hearty meal of the day.

The best way to live in Cuba is to rent a room either at a hotel or lodging house and take your meals at the restaurants. There are cafes and restaurants everywhere, and some are good. There are always enough dishes on the bill of fare to furnish an appetizing and digestible meal and one pays for what he orders. All meats are eaten the same day they are killed, and they are not so good as those kept for a time in cold storage. The birds are cooked as soon as their heads are chopped off, and for this reason are tougher than the American variety. Poultry dealers bring the chickens alive from the country, and a common sight is a chicken pedlar with his fowls hung from his shoulders. Turkeys are driven through the streets, and one buys them as it were, on the hoof. Live pigs are carried on the shoulders or in carts.

CUBA'S SOFT DRINKS.
This is a great place for soft drinks. The cafes have them by the score, and some are good. A popular one is pina colada, made from a mixture of sugar and white of egg dried in rolls six inches long. These rolls are served with a glass of water. You drip in your pina and it dissolves, and you have a sweetish drink which makes the Cuban's mouth water.

Pina colada is not bad, and naranjada, or the juice of oranges, if cooled with a bit of ice, is delicious. Another drink is tamarind fruit crushed in water, and a third is the milk of the green coconut, poured out in a glass and cooled with ice. Green coconut milk looks like water. It has a slightly sweetish taste with a mild flavor of coconut. It is not to be compared to the milk of the ripe nut, which is coarse and heavy. There is a drink here made of the skins and cores of pineapples, which have been placed in a stone jar with water and allowed to ferment, and there are others made of other fruits the names of which I do not know. The Cubans have but few intoxicating liquors, and so far, I have seen almost no drunkenness. The most common wines are Spanish, it being the custom to drink wine with one's meals. Coffee may be had anywhere in Cuba. It is always served with milk, and, as the coffee beans are burnt to a cinder, it is rather bitter to the American taste. Most of the milk for coffee is boiled and salted. As it is the custom to drive the cows through the streets from house to house and milk them before the doors, but the milk is now delivered from dairies on the backs of horses or mules.

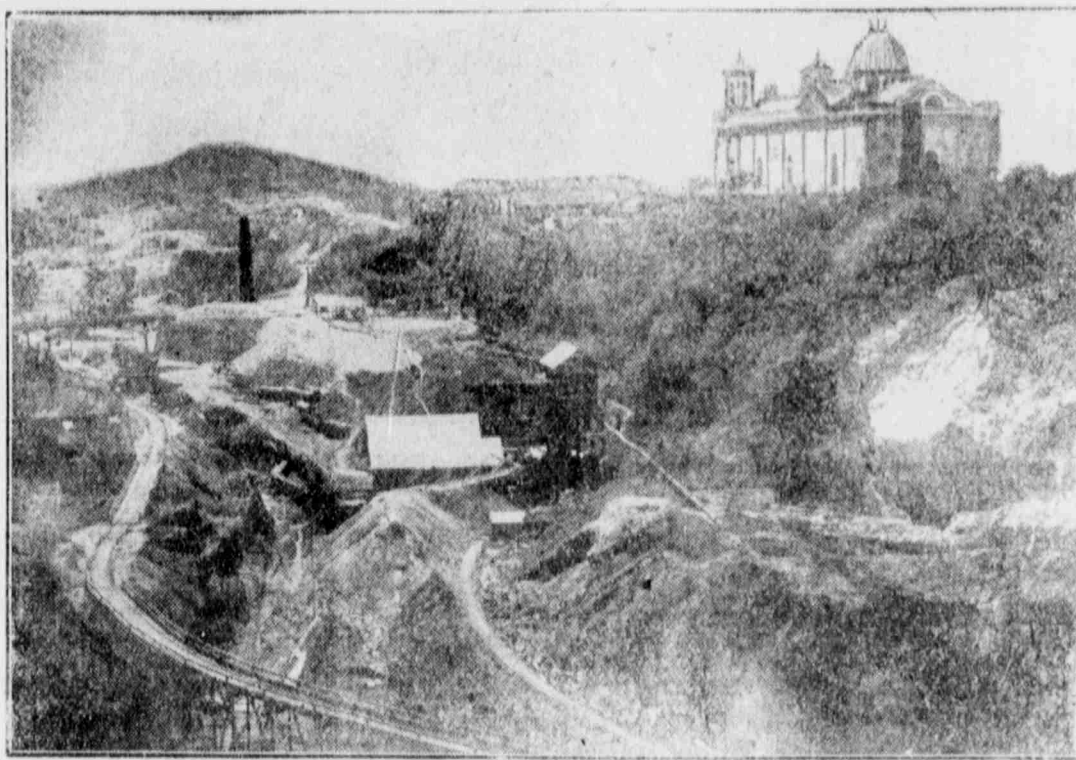
CABS ARE CHEAP.
I came from my ship to the hotel for 30 cents in silver. This included three passengers. The fare for the ordinary cab ride is about 15 cents, and the service is quite good. The cabs of New York. The cab horses are fast, and the drivers as a rule, are not extortionists. In shopping, one can get a hack by the hour for 50 cents gold, and if he makes his bargain away from the hotels, other kinds of transportation are cheap.

The street car rates are five cents American, and there is a set of common vehicles known as guaguas, which connect Havana with all suburban towns, the fares of which are remarkably low. The guaguas, pronounced waw-gas, are the property of the street car companies. They are omnibuses, each drawn by four mules, the animals being driven on the gallop up hill and down. I have ridden in them here and there over the island, but I doubt whether they are fit vehicles for our superstitious American ladies, who may object to the smoking among the men and women passengers.

The cabs of Cuba are victorias, with tops which come down so as to shade the eyes. They are well-made vehicles, imported from Europe. Indeed, I am told that the American cab will not stand the wear and tear of the Havana street. The most of the city thoroughfares are narrow, and not a few are paved with cobble. In some of them it is hardly possible to pass, and the drivers have to be careful at the crossings or when turning a corner. Every cab has a bell under it, which is rung by the foot of the driver. These bells are of the door-bell variety, so that there is a continual clanging and ringing as the carriages go through the streets. Indeed, it was some time before I could find where the ding-dong noise came from, until I saw that they were from my own cab and made by my driver.

A great deal of the transportation of Cuba is moved by mules. This is so with the heavy traffic of Havana. The mules are fine animals, fat, strong and well kept. Each cart mule has a gay saddle and a bridle with a red tassel as big as a fly brush at each ear and also under the chin. Many of the mules

Havana and the American Stomach—High Rates for Vankees—Queer Features Of Restaurants and Cafes—Cuba's Soft Drinks—Cheap Cabs—The Land Of Ten Million Palms—A Look at the Calves of Bellamar—The Virgin of Cobre and Her Wonderful Cures.



THE CHAPEL OF THE VIRGIN ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP.

have bells about their necks, and some have bells on their collars, so that they make a great noise as they go.

Outside Havana the heavy traffic is carried in ox carts; such carts are to be seen everywhere throughout the island, except in the larger cities.

The most of the tourists do not get outside of Havana. They miss the most interesting part of the country. There is no more beautiful island than this. It is the Switzerland of the tropics; and, indeed, it might be called the land of ten million palms. I have seen palms in the tropics around the globe, but nowhere do they compare with those of Cuba. The principal tree is the royal palm. It has a trunk like frost-steel, and it rises straight upward to a height of 100 or more feet, when it bursts out into a gigantic rassel of fern-like leaves. The leaves are of the brightest green; they have many branches, and they quiver in the

breeze. These royal palms are to be seen in groves and singly here and there throughout cultivated Cuba. They form the line the road to some great hacienda, or mark the boundaries of an estate. They may be seen among the sugar fields, columns of silver rising out of a plain of emeralds; and again over the dark green of the tobacco or above the reddish bronze of a pineapple plantation. They stand out upon the newly plowed fields of rich chocolate soil

and mirror themselves in every stream and lake. There are tens of thousands—aye, tens of millions of them. These palm trees form, to a large extent, the building and roofing material of Cuba. Their leaves are used to wrap the boxes of tobacco which are brought into the factories or shipped abroad. Sewed together, they form the walls of the huts, and laid one over another, the roofs. Enormous sheds are covered by them, from 10,000 to 20,000 leaves being used for a single shed-roof. Such leaves are used over the huts above the yokes to shade the heads of the oxen. They sometimes also shade the carts. A framework being covered with them, the yokes are placed over the oxen, and the cart is covered with them. It will be known as such as this goes on. Every town has its own peculiar features, and some of the older ones are as quaint as any in Moorish Spain. There are caves scattered here and there over the island. Those of Bellamar, near Matanzas, consist of a series of underground chambers and halls about three miles in length, walled and hung with stalactite and stalagmite formations. One of the halls is 25 feet long and 50 feet wide, its roof being upheld by immense columns. It is known as the Gothic Temple. There are wonderful caves in the mountains near Camaguey, and natural bridges and other strange formations are rivers throughout the island. The Cuzco river, in eastern Cuba, flows its way through a lofty ridge and comes out on the other side, three miles distant.

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THE VIRGIN OF COBRE.
Cuba has some shrines which are worth visiting. One may tramp about here in the footsteps of Columbus, and if he has that faith which moves mountains he may go to the shrine of the Virgin of Cobre, not far from Santiago, and have all his ailments cured. I visited this place during my exploration of the copper mines. The chapel of the Virgin is right on the top of the mountain, with the village of Cobre perched a quarter of a mile below it. There are steps leading from the town to the chapel, and pilgrims come here at certain times of the year and go up these steps on their knees to pray to the virgin and be cured. It is the custom in Cuba when one's prayers regarding a special ailment have been answered to give a silver model of the diseased member to the church. In the glass cases back of the altar I saw 500 little solid silver legs which the priest told me had been given by the lame who had been made to walk, and hundreds of silver and gold hands, and even golden lungs and livers. There were gold and silver eyes donated by the blind who had been made to see, and a corn or so of crutches which had aided the lame to the chapel, but which, being cured, they needed no longer. As I examined these evidences of the Virgin's curative properties the priest told me he had boxes of other gold and silver images stored away in the vaults of the church,

and he related many fairy stories of the Virgin and her wonderful cures.

The Virgin is the patron saint of Cuba. She has much the same place here as that of the Virgin Annunciate in Canada, or that of the spring blessed by the Virgin at Lourdes. The priest opened the glass case in which she is kept and showed me its contents. Her figure is about as big as a two-dollar doll. It is of wood beautifully carved and clad in satin, embroidered with flowers, and decorated with emeralds, diamonds and other jewels. There is said to be about \$50,000 worth of diamonds and emeralds upon it, and this, notwithstanding a robbery of about six years ago, when thieves broke into the chapel and carried away treasures worth \$25,000.

The story of this Virgin dates back to the days of Columbus. I have it from the mouth of the priest. Her first appearance was in the hands of Alonso Ojeda, who gave her to an Indian chief, in whose tribe she was worshipped. Later, when the Spanish historian, describes this Virgin, and tells how she helped the Indians who had her in their contacts with neighboring tribes. At one time two armies were facing each other. One possessed the image of the Virgin and the other had their native idols. The contest was to see whose god was the stronger. As the contestants came together the Indians owned the Virgin repeated an Ave Maria, whereupon the Virgin herself came down in a cloud and gave victory to that army.

A short time after this the Virgin disappeared and she was not seen again until just about eight years after our pilgrim forefathers landed on Plymouth Rock. She was then discovered by two fishermen, floating upon a thin board upon Nipe bay. The winds were strong, but the sea did not overturn the board nor wet the garments of the Virgin standing upon it. The fishermen first thought the little image was a seal, but when they came up to her and took up the board they read these words, which had been engraved upon it:

"I am the Virgin of Charity." The records show that they took the image away and made a chapel for it. The natives worshipped it, but one night it disappeared and only after long hunting was it discovered where its chapel now stands. It was carried back, but it again disappeared and was found on the same spot. The people then realized that this was the chosen home of the Virgin and they erected a church on the site.

That church was built at just about the time Boston was founded. It was afterwards succeeded by the church of today. It stands on the top of a copper filled mountain. What were once the richest copper mines of the world lie all about it and there might be mines anywhere. It were not that the natives would consider such excavations a sacrilege.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

BEAUTIFUL TABLE COVERS.

In floral and conventional designs. Each day marks the arrival of new pieces in the Art Section. Elegant pieces ready to use, also beautifully stamped pieces to be worked. Free lessons by Madam Nielson Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

A NOTABLE WEEK IN THE DRESS GOODS AISLE.

TO INTRODUCE THE POPULAR PRICED DRESS FABRICS FOR FALL, 1905, WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING SPLENDID "SPECIALS" FOR ONE WEEK. PRICES ARE ABSOLUTELY "SPECIAL," AND THE GOODS ARE THE VERY BEST OF THIS SEASON'S PRODUCTION.

SCOTCH PLAIDS.
In this assortment you'll find the popular Scotch plaids. The most desirable fabrics for children's dresses and ladies' waists. Monday and week. They go at the yard..... **58 cts**

SMALL NEAT CHECKS.
And inevitable plaids, for children's and ladies' shirt-waist suits. All the latest ideas in mixed effects are here. Particularly the blue and green checks—the rage for this season. Would sell readily at 50c the yard. But they will go Monday and week at the yard..... **45 cts**

ALL WOOL ALBATROSS.
All the new shades are represented in this fabric, both in the light and dark colors. Also cream and black—36 inches wide and a very excellent value at 50c the yard. But as a "Special" Monday and week, the yard..... **40 cts**

CHECKED PANAMA.
Covert cloth, mixed effects, checked, polka-dot, mingled effects, mohair checks and plaid worsted checks, are included in this assortment. They are easily worn the yard, but as an inducement to early buying we offer them Monday and week at the yard..... **62 cts**

A Beautiful Selection of Checks and Plaids for Waists.
THIS ASSORTMENT COMPRISES SMALL CHECKS AND BLOCK PLAIDS, WITH EMBROIDERED DESIGNS. LIGHT WEIGHT FABRICS, AND ULTRA-FASHIONABLE FOR THIS SEASON.

PRICES 75c, 85c, 90c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 the yard.

THE JUVENILE SECTION.

NEWEST MODELS IN COATS FOR LITTLE GIRLS—

These range in sizes from 2 to 14 years and the assortment embraces all the newest fabrics and styles for the little ones—Bear skins, kerseys, mole skin velvet and cheviots priced from \$25 down to..... **\$5.50**

COMPLETE LINE OF CHILDREN'S DRESSES. In wool and fancy products, many different styles. Prices range from \$30.00 down to..... **\$1.50**

BOYS' "HERCULES" SCHOOL SUITS. Waterproof and dust-proof, with linen double sleeve lining, the suit adapted to hard knocks. ANOTHER LINE OF BOYS' SUITS. Made with two pairs of trousers, an advantage very much appreciated by economical mothers. Materials are all wool and suits are well tailored.

A Beautiful Assortment of Silk Petticoats

In all the new shades. Also beautiful flannels, cloth and broadens. To introduce this unusually comprehensive stock we offer skirts worth from \$15.00 to \$25.00 at your choice..... **\$12.50**

FRENCH HAND EMBROIDERED INFANTS' WEAR. Also dainty productions of domestic manufacture, including slips, dresses, skirts, bibs, bonnets..... **\$5.00**

FLANNELLETTES GOWNS AND SKIRTS. A very large selection of these garments, in regular and extra sizes—Prices range from \$2.00 down to..... **50c**

COMPLETE SHOWING OF FINE FURS.

The most complete assortment of fine furs to be found in the city—Stoles, butterflys, ties, also the whole mink skin muffs and six stripe pillow muffs.

A rare collection of seal coats in the newest models—Also Persian lamb coats, trimmed with sable—

BEAUTIFUL MODELS IN LADIES' AND MISSES' SUITS AND COATS.—The assortment far surpasses anything we have had previous to this. The newest shades, materials and models are all represented—Prices from \$25.00 down to..... **\$13.75**

SKIRTS DESIGNED FOR THIS SEASON.—A very comprehensive assortment—including the circular and bell models, also the pleated worsteds—These are priced from \$25.00 and down to..... **\$5.00**

PRETTY LINEN LINGERIE WAISTS. Also handsome effects in wool plaids and silks.

THE FAMOUS "CROSS" SHOE FOR WOMEN.

\$3.50

The climax of shoe manufacturing has been attained in this production. Embodying every good feature that a good shoe should possess, it also represents new features peculiar to itself and placing it on a plane, approached by few and surpassed by none. Come and see the new last. Twenty different styles. The "Cross" Shoe will soon be the talk of the town.....

\$3.50

25 Pieces Corset Cover Embroideries at 50c the yard.

These are new arrivals, and would readily bring 75c to \$1.25 the yard, but to keep things going, we have marked them down to 50c the yard.

Platte Val Laces—worth 25c to 50c the yard—12½c. 200 pieces in this lot, 3 to 6 inches deep—with insertions to match.

Platte Val Laces—worth 15c to 25c the yard—8½c. 200 pieces of these, from 2 to 5 inches deep.

Imitation Torchon Lace—worth 10c the yard—4c. This lot contains 100 pieces with insertions to match.

TREMENDOUS UNDERPRICINGS ON RUGS.

9x12 Granite Rugs \$3.50 for **\$3.00** 9x12-6 Granite Rugs \$4.75 for **\$3.90**

8x9 Granite Rugs \$4.25 for **\$3.35** 8x12 Granite Rugs \$5.00 for **\$4.65**

New Patterns in Best All Wool Ingrains Reduced.

Size 9x12, for..... **\$9.00** Size 9x9, for..... **\$7.00**

Size 9x10-6, for..... **\$8.25** Size 7-6x9, for..... **\$5.35**

CORRECT GLOVES FOR AUTUMN WEAR.

All the new shades and ideas are to be found in our glove section. Among the leaders we show the W. R. glove \$1.50 as one of the best.

Another fine glove is our Lella, the best glove on the market at \$1.00.—In a little better quality we are showing the Reynier at \$2.00, perfection in glove manufacture.

For a good fall and winter glove, in a little heavier weight, the Lucas and Kennedy Mocha glove leads the bunch—both lined and unlined and sells at \$1.50 and \$1.75.

KIRK'S FAUST TOILET SOAP—WORTH 25c

THE BOX; Special for the week..... **15c**

This soap comes three cakes in a box—A very fine article for the skin.

DR. GRAVES' BORATED TALCUM POWDER 10c
SPECIAL..... **10c**

This talcum is known by reputation to every one and will go fast at 10c per can—worth 20c.

SEVEN SUTHERLAND SISTERS' HAIR PREPARATIONS on sale at our Stationery Department.

FROM THE MEN'S CORNER.

MEN'S SOFT SHIRTS WORTH \$2.25 AND \$2.50 1.65 for.....

These are very good shirts for cool weather, being made of heavy weight of madras with pleated bosom and also of percale—Some have cuffs attached, others detachable and most of them are the \$2.50 kind—Size range from 14 to 17—A very good assortment of patterns and colors. Don't miss them.



SENATOR T. C. PLATT

MAE WOOD SUES SENATOR PLATT.

Mrs. Catherine Wood, who gained notoriety by bringing suit against President Roosevelt's secretary, Mr. Loeb, Consul General Wynne and others some time ago, has filed another suit in Omaha, Neb., against Senator T. C. Platt, president of the United States Express company, and against the company, alleging that the defendants were indebted to her for \$25,000 attorney's fees in helping them defeat the post check bill that was before Congress in 1902. To emphasize her claim, Miss Wood garnished Platt's salary as president of the Express company, and attached all the company's property in Omaha.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.